



Department of Public Safety

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE &
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For Immediate Release

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Governor Parnell Kicks Off Statewide “Coaching Boys Into Men” Training in Juneau

Forty athletic team coaches from across Alaska are gathering from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 22, at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center, 350 Whittier Street, in Juneau, to receive training in how to implement the statewide domestic violence and sexual assault prevention initiative “Coaching Boys into Men.”

Governor Sean Parnell will kick off the day’s events at 8:30 a.m. with a welcome and opening remarks. The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Executive Director Lauree Morton will moderate the program, which includes a panel discussion at noon with Thunder Mountain and Juneau Douglas High School athletes and their coaches John Blasco and Robert Casperson. Blasco and Casperson have been implementing the prevention program in Juneau since it was first launched in early 2010 by the prevention specialist at Juneau’s domestic violence shelter program AWARE.

“‘Coaching Boys Into Men’ became an integral part of Governor Parnell’s Choose Respect Initiative in 2012,” said Morton. “To date, more than 150 coaches throughout Alaska have already received training in how to implement this program with their team members,” she said.

“From speeches to the team, practice sessions, or simply casual conversation, coaches have many

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opportunities to impart their philosophies to athletes,” said Morton. “The “Coaching Boys Into Men” program provides coaches with the tools and training they can use to positively influence how young men think and behave both on, and off, the field.”

Event sponsors include: the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Governor Parnell’s Choose Respect Initiative; the Department of Education and Early Development; and AWARE.

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